

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

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1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~12~~ 16 wherein the narrowband communication line is a private line.

14. (Cancelled)

A 15. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~14~~ 16 including:  
detecting packets at a receiving end of the channel in the second virtual circuit connection, wherein the packets contain information representative of an association between one of the channels and the narrowband circuit;  
establishing a path from the receiving end of the channel in the second virtual circuit connection to the narrowband circuit; and  
releasing resources associated with a path from a receiving end of the narrowband circuit to the channel in the first virtual circuit connection.

16. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 12 including:~~ A method of providing narrowband communication services comprising:

rolling over a narrowband communication line that traverses a channel in a first virtual circuit connection in a packet network to a channel in a second virtual circuit connection in the

packet network, wherein the rolling over includes broadcasting traffic from a narrowband circuit over the channels in the first and second virtual circuit connections.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~12~~ 16 wherein rolling over the narrowband communication line to the channel in the second virtual circuit connection is transparent to end-users.

18-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently amended) ~~The article of claim 22 including instructions for causing the computer system to~~ An article comprising a machine-readable storage medium for storing machine-executable instructions for causing a system to roll over a private line that traverses a channel in a first virtual circuit connection in a packet network to a channel in a second virtual circuit connection in the packet network, wherein the rolling over includes broadcasting traffic from a narrowband circuit forming part of the private line over the channels in the first and second virtual circuit connections.

24. (Currently amended) The article of claim 23 including instructions for causing the ~~computer~~ system to:

detect packets at a receiving end of the channel in the second virtual circuit connection, wherein the packets contain information representative of an association between one of the channels and the narrowband circuit; and

establish a path from the receiving end of the channel in the second virtual circuit connection to the narrowband circuit.

25. (Currently amended) The article of claim 23 including instructions for causing the ~~computer~~ system to release resources associated with a path from a receiving end of the narrowband circuit to the channel in the first virtual circuit connection.

26. (New) The method of claim 16 including reassigning a telephone circuit from the channel in the first virtual circuit connection to the channel in the second virtual circuit connection.

27. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the rolling over occurs in response to receiving a request to reassign the narrowband circuit from the channel in the first virtual circuit connection to the channel in the second virtual circuit connection.

28. (New) The method of claim 16 including:  
transmitting out-of-service patterns on unused channels in the second virtual circuit connection;  
detecting packets having patterns other than out-of-service patterns; and  
reconfiguring resources to establish an incoming path from the channel in second virtual circuit connection to a receiving side of the narrowband circuit.

29. (New) The article of claim 23 including instructions for causing the system to:  
reassign a telephone circuit from the channel in the first virtual circuit connection to the channel in the second virtual circuit connection.

30. (New) The article of claim 23 wherein the rolling over occurs in response to receiving a request to reassign the narrowband circuit from the channel in the first virtual circuit connection to the channel in the second virtual circuit connection.

31. (New) The article of claim 23 including instructions for causing the system to:  
transmit out-of-service patterns on unused channels in the second virtual circuit  
connection;

detect packets having patterns other than out-of-service patterns; and  
reconfigure resources to establish an incoming path from the channel in second virtual  
circuit connection to a receiving side of the narrowband circuit.

32. (New) An apparatus including a gateway adapted to roll over a private line that  
traverses a channel in a first virtual circuit connection in a packet network to a channel in a  
second virtual circuit connection in the packet network, wherein the rolling over includes  
broadcasting traffic from a narrowband circuit forming part of the private line over the channels  
in the first and second virtual circuit connections.

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32. (New) The apparatus of claim 32 wherein the gateway is adapted to:  
detect packets at a receiving end of the channel in the second virtual circuit connection,  
wherein the packets contain information representative of an association between one of the  
channels and the narrowband circuit; and

establish a path from the receiving end of the channel in the second virtual circuit  
connection to the narrowband circuit.

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33. (New) The apparatus of claim 32 wherein the gateway is adapted to release  
resources associated with a path from a receiving end of the narrowband circuit to the channel in  
the first virtual circuit connection.

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34. (New) The apparatus of claim 32 wherein the gateway is adapted to perform the  
rolling over in response to receiving a request to reassign the narrowband circuit from the  
channel in the first virtual circuit connection to the channel in the second virtual circuit  
connection.

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35. (New) The apparatus of claim 32 wherein the gateway is adapted to:  
transmit out-of-service patterns on unused channels in the second virtual circuit

connection;

detect packets having patterns other than out-of-service patterns; and

reconfigure resources to establish an incoming path from the channel in second virtual  
circuit connection to a receiving side of the narrowband circuit.

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